

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is

1. A method to be performed on-board a commercial aircraft, the method comprising:

electronically swiping an identification card indicating attendant and commercial airline flight;

electronically swiping a financial card to collect identification information for payment of rental of a self-contained in-flight entertainment device;

distributing the self-contained in-flight entertainment device to a passenger;

noting an identification of the self-contained in-flight entertainment device; and

recording an association between the identification of the self-contained in-flight entertainment device and information associated with the passenger.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the recording is done by writing an identification number of the self-contained in-flight entertainment device on a clear plastic map of seating of the aircraft.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the recording is done by placing a paper copy of a finance transaction related to the swiping of the financial card into a slot of a carrying case previously holding the self-contained in-flight entertainment device.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the recording of the association has information associated with the passenger consisting of at least one of the following: the identification information from the financial card, identification of seating for the passenger, and identification information of the passenger.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the financial card being electronically swiped is a credit card of the passenger.

6. A method to be performed on-board a commercial aircraft comprising:

distributing self-contained in-flight entertainment devices to passengers for their use on-board the commercial aircraft in exchange for payment with a financial card;

recording an association between the self-contained in-flight entertainment devices and the passengers using them;

collecting the self-contained in-flight entertainment devices from passengers;

determining if any one of the self-contained in-flight entertainment devices was not collected and if so, determining from the association, which one of the passengers was non-compliant for such non-collection; and

charging the financial card for the uncollected self-contained in-flight entertainment device.